

## Message Text

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12

ACTION AF-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 IO-10 SAM-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-03 H-01 INR-05 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /073 W

----- 047309

R 290910Z NOV 74

FM AMCNSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3078

INFO AMEMBASSY BLANTYRE

AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY KINDHASA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMCONSUL LUANDA

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY MBABANE

AMEMBASSY PREOTRIA

USMISSION USUN

CINCLANT FOR POLAD

CINCEUR

C O N F I D E N T I A L LOURENCO MARQUES 1080

CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MILI, PINS, SF, RH, MZ

SUBJECT: MOZAMBIQUE SECURITY SITUATION

1. COL. MANUEL DE SOUSA MENEZES, CHIEF OF STAFF OF PORTUGUESE  
ARMED FORCES IN MOZAMBIQUE, INFORMED CONGEN OFFICER NOVEMBER 27:

A. FRELIMO FORCES IN MOZAMBIQUE WILL NUMBER AROUND 10,000 BY  
END OF 1974 AND 20,000 BY INDEPENDENCE. FRELIMO IS RECRUITING  
FROM ALL TRIBES AND REGIONS AND USING TRAINING CAMPS FORMERLY  
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RUN BY THE PORTUGUESE. MUEDA IS MAJOR FRELIMO TRAINING CAMP.

B. BLACK MOZAMBICAN FORCES UNDER PORTUGUESE COMMAND ARE BEING DISCHARGED. ALL 1973 RECRUITS WILL BE DISCHARGED BY END OF 1974 AND REMAINDER BY MAY, 1975.

C. PORTUGUESE FORCES: ABOUT HALF WILL HAVE LEFT BY END OF 1974; REMAINDER BY INDEPENDENCE.

D. HE PERCEIVES NO SECURITY THREAT FROM SOUTH AFRICA BUT UNCERTAIN ABOUT RHODESIA. IN VIEW MANPOWER SHORTAGE, RHODESIA MAY BE RECRUITING MERCENARIES FOR ITS OWN DEFENSE RATHER THAN FOR OFFENSIVE ACTION AGAINST MOZAMBIQUE.

E. THERE IS NO EVIDENCE ZANU IS OPERATING FROM MOZAMBIQUE AGAINST RHODESIA. SUCH OPERATIONS COULD PROVOKE RHODESIA INTO ATTACKING MOZAMBIQUE AND THUS IT IS UNLIKELY FRELIMO WILL PERMIT THEM -- AT LEAST NOW.

F. HE IS OPTIMISTIC ABOUT SECURITY SITUATION IN MOZAMBIQUE BUT DOES NOT DISCOUNT TROUBLE PROVOKED BY FEW SUICIDAL, DIEHARD WHITES. RECENT ARRESTS IN BEIRA (LM A-184) SHOW THEY ARE STILL AROUND. MOST OF WHITES ARRESTED DURING OPERATION ROUND-UP ON OCTOBER 27 WERE ALLOWED TO LEAVE COUNTRY; ONLY ABOUT DOZEN UNIMPORTANT INDIVIDUALS REMAIN IN JAIL.

2. COMMENT: A) PROJECTED FRELIMO STRENGTH BY END OF 1974 LENDS CREDENCE TO REPORTS THAT FRELIMO FORCES DURING GUERRILLA WAR AGAINST PORTUGUESE WERE SMALLER THAN 10,000 FIGURE GENERALLY USED; B) DISCHARGE OF BLACK MOZAMBICAN FORCES WILL REMOVE BIG POTENTIAL SECURITY THREAT TO FRELIMO'S CONSOLIDATION OF POWER. HOWEVER, THEIR REASSIMILATION INTO POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC LIFE PRESENTS A POTENTIAL SOURCE EITHER OF SUPPORT OR OPPOSITION FOR FRELIMO (ONE RECENT RETURNEE, A PROTESTANT PASTORAL STUDENT, EXPRESSED TO CONGEN HIS ADMIRATION FOR FRELIMO WHICH HE HAD FOUGHT IN CABO DELGADO; C) WE HAVE NOTED REPORTS, SOME OF THEM EYE-WITNESS, OF ZAMBIAN AND TANZANIAN SOLDIERS WITH FRELIMO FORCES. WE BELIEVE THEY ARE NOT NUMEROUS AND PROBABLY REPRESENT LONG-TIME CROSS-BORDER FRELIMO RECRUITS; D) GENERALLY ACKNOWLEDGED FIGURE FOR PORTUGUESE FORCE WITHDRAWAL FROM MOZAMBIQUE BY END OF 1974  
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IS 12,000. IF THIS REPRESENTS HALF OF TOTAL PORTUGUESE MILITARY STRENGTH IN MOZAMBIQUE, IT MEANS MORE PORTUGUESE SOLDIERS WILL BE AROUND UNTIL INDEPENDENCE THAN EXPECTED; E) MENEZES' ASSERTION REGARDING ZANU CONFLICTS WITH FREQUENT REPORTS IN SOUTH AFRICAN PRESS (STAR OF NOV 26) THAT ZANU IS USING MOZAMBIQUE TO ATTACK RHODESIA. WE SUSPECT THAT, IF ZANU IS USING MOZAMBIQUE TERRITORY, THE LEVEL OF ACTIVITY IS LOW AND NO GREATER THAN AFTER FRELIMO'S ENTRY INTO THE MOZAMBIQUE

GOVERNMENT.  
WALKER

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